MISSION AWARENESS WEEK
This year Mission Awareness Week is from October 16-October 20. Read more to learn about this year’s theme and suggestions for all students.

MISSION MODERATORS MEET & GREET
A moderator’s job is very important, so we invite you to join our session where you will meet and exchange ideas. Read more for further details.

CHRISTMAS ARTWORK CONTEST
Winners have been announced and our National Finalists will be recognized during the MCA Mass. New deadline and form are now available.

EXEED. DIRECTORS: Msgr. Terrance Fleming | DIRECTOR: Lydia Gamboa | MCA COORDINATOR: Magdalena Arellano

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We hope to see you and your students at this year's celebration of the Missionary Childhood Association Youth Appreciation Mass in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. It’s through this mass that we thank all students personally for their prayer, sacrificial giving and participation in MCA. Their missionary efforts have not gone unnoticed which have helped to improve the lives of other children.

This year the theme for the MCA Youth Appreciation Mass is 'Baptized and Sent'. Pope Francis reminds us that we are a mission of God put on this earth. Our mission of helping spread the Gospel in all corners of the world is something that we can all do from a very early age.

Remember to send your school's RSVP form as soon as possible and don’t forget to bring your school banners to the mass so a student can participate during the procession. If you have any questions, contact Magdalena Arellano at marellano@la-archdiocese.org or 213-637-7416.

Earlier this year we started celebrating Family Mission Days at some parishes in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. It’s a day spent with families learning about our call to mission and how each family is called to evangelize in everything they do. The children attending do activities with their parents and learn about the importance of prayer, sacrificial giving and solidarity we have with the universal church.

Each family attending has been decorating a piece of cloth in which they say one thing they commit themselves to do as a family in response to their call to mission through baptism. We have been making a missionary quilt that will be put on display at a chapel in the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels during the Extraordinary Month of the Missions: October 2019.

If your school would like to contribute a piece to the quilt with a picture or a few words of how you are committed to answer the call to mission we all receive at baptism.

Please get in contact with our office and we will send you a piece of cloth to decorate and mail back to us.
EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH: OCTOBER 2019

Pope Francis had declared the month of October 2019 an Extraordinary Missionary Month (EMM). We are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Apostolic Letter Maximum Illud by Pope Benedict XV. Pope Francis wishes to renew the Church’s missionary commitment because it is part of our identity as Christians.

This school year we will be following the theme for this celebration ‘Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World’. All dioceses around the world are asked to live out the four dimensions proposed for the EMM.
1. Having a personal encounter with Christ alive in His Church
2. Witnessing the faith giving testimony through the way we live our lives and sharing the lives of saints
3. Forming and helping form others with a missionary spirit
4. Giving Missionary Charity

Through these four dimensions we want children to understand that we are all God’s children and as such we are called to participate in the mission of the church. Our missionary commitment is to show our love for our neighbors because as children of God, we all deserve to be treated with love and dignity. For more information on the EMM visit our website at www.missionsla.org/extraordinary-missionary-month/

Decorate your Mission Corner in your school or classroom with this year’s theme.

MISSION MODERATORS 'MEET & GREET'

One of the main focuses of the Missionary Childhood Association is to allow children to know of their call to mission and to foster in them the desire to answer this call to mission with their every action here at home.

Come and meet other Mission Moderators September 20th at 9am, to share how your school implements MCA. We will be sharing ideas of what can you do for the Extraordinary Missionary Month: October 2019.

CHRISTMAS ARTWORK CONTEST

Congratulations to our two National Finalists! Their artwork will be displayed at the Cathedral of the National Shrine in Washington D.C. They will receive a commemorative plaque from our National MCA Office.

Elise Kim, Holy Family School in South Pasadena

Sia (Chae-ee) Jeong, Holy Trinity School in San Pedro

Our local MCA office will also recognize Elise and Sia as national winners by displaying their artwork at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels’ art chapel during Advent and Christmas. The artwork of the 10 Local Finalists will also be displayed in the chapel. To view their artwork online: www.missionsla.org/christmas-artwork-contest/

DEADLINE FOR 2019-2020 CONTEST

Entries must be submitted by January 31, 2020. Visit our website for rules and a copy of the form.
We look forward to seeing your Christmas Artwork entries!
Pope Francis has shared that “prayer is the first ‘missionary work’ – the first! – every Christian can and must do, and it is also the most effective, even if it cannot be measured.” He went on to say that “the principal agent of evangelization is the Holy Spirit, and we are called to collaborate with Him.” Through prayer we can help evangelize the world collaborating with the Holy Spirit. Let us all pray the World Mission Rosary and ask the Holy Spirit to ignite in us a missionary spirit allowing us to transform the world we live in for the better.

We are also called to give and share what we have with those who are in need. The motto of MCA “Children Helping Children” comes from the monetary donations that are given by all the children who belong to MCA around the world. These funds are used to help fund programs that offer education for children, meals, housing for children without a home, medical care for children, and sacramental preparation. Children around the world (even those countries who are very poor) are part of MCA where they teach children to lend a helping hand with any contributions they can give. Giving generously shows our solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ all over the world.

Service comes naturally when we pray and give to others. It is through our service to others that we will be recognized as Christians. “All will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). When we are of service to others, we show our love for one another as children of God. Let us go out in our neighborhoods and homes and be of service, bearing witness to the Gospel to all who know and encounter us in the world.

Mission Awareness Week falls on the third week of October, the “Mission Month”. As baptized Catholics, we are called to witness the Gospel. This falls in line with the theme for World Mission Sunday of “Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World.” Through baptism we are all made part of the mission of the Church to take the Gospel to all corners of the world, beginning in our homes, schools and neighborhoods.

In his message for World Mission Sunday 2019, Pope Francis tells us that, “As far as God’s love is concerned, no one is useless or insignificant. Each of us is a mission to the world, for each of us is the fruit of God’s love.” Let us be fruitful in the world and make a difference, transforming the world. This year’s theme for Mission Awareness Week is: “Walking with Jesus”.

More information will be included in the October MCA Material.